

MAR 11 2003

CASE MP/3-21927/A/AC 536

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Group Art Unit: P. Hruskoci

MICHAEL GERARD GALLAGHER ET AL

Examiner: 1724

APPLICATION NO: 09/866,967

FILED: MAY 29, 2001

FOR: TREATMENT OF MINERAL MATERIALS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is in response to an Office Action, dated October 4, 2002, mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Paper No. 15). The Office Action set a shortened statutory period for response to expire on January 4, 2003. This Amendment is being filed within two (2) month(s) of the shortened statutory period for response.

A petition for a two (2) month extension of time is enclosed herewith. Per the petition, Applicants invoke the benefit of 37 C.F.R. 1.136 to secure a two (2) month extension up to and including March 4, 2003.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee due, or credit any overcharge, as a result of